

Front
PageEdit
PageOther
Page

SEP 1 1960

CPYRIGHT

Date:

C.I.A. Press Officer Once North Soldier

Col. Stanley J. Grogan
Served at Fort On-
tario, Madison Bar-
racks and Pine Camp.

By ALAN S. EMORY
Washington Bureau
Watertown Daily Times
National Press Bldg.

Washington, Sept. 1.—A former northern New York army officer now holds down the unusual job of press officer of the publicity-shy Central Intelligence agency—usually referred to as Uncle Sam's "cloak-and-dagger outfit."

Actually, Col. Stanley J. Grogan is a special assistant to C.I.A. Director Allen W. Dulles. It is his job to handle the sensitive question of what news about C.I.A. gets into print and

what doesn't, who gets to see Mr. Dulles and about what.

Colonel Grogan's enthusiasm for his job, and his chief, are at constant high pitch.

His connections with the north country don't quite match those of his chief, who was born in Watertown, but Colonel Grogan clearly remembers rifle marksmanship practice at Stony Point, while he was stationed at Fort Ontario. In 1925 he was commander of K company of the 28th Infantry.

He also was attached to
See C.I.A.—Page 25



Col. Stanley J. Grogan

C. I. A.

From Last Page

brigade headquarters at Madison Barracks, and he remembers basketball games there. He received his major's gold leaves at Pine Camp (now Camp Drum) while on First army maneuvers in 1935, the first big maneuver, he recalls, that military expert Hanson Baldwin covered for the New York Times. At that time Gen. Dennis Nolan, the First army chief, commanded his troops from the air.

A native of Archbald, Pa., near Scranton, Colonel Grogan was president of the first four-year class at Technical High school there, being graduated in 1909. Last year he attended a 50th anniversary reunion. Following graduation he went to work for the Scranton Truth, shifting to the morning Republican, which later became the Tribune-Republican.

He was sports editor there, then in 1912 joined the Scranton Daily News, a new paper that backed Gifford Pinchot, the hero of conservationists. The paper folded in three years, and Colonel Grogan headed for the Bridgeport Telegram, and there he served as area correspondent for the leading New York city papers. There was an interval when he worked for the New York World under Herbert Bayard Swope.

Some time after that he joined the Lynn (Mass.) Telegram as a political writer, but following an intensive course at Harvard he joined the army and, in 1917, went to Plattsburgh, N.Y., as an instructor in the Civil and Military Training corps. It was in Plattsburgh that he received his regular army commission. Others at Plattsburgh included John J. McCloy, New York banker and former high commissioner to Germany and head of the World bank, who received his commission at the same time as Colonel Grogan.

The colonel served in France and Germany in World War I, returned to the United States in 1922 and had a varied military career that led, in 1940, to a course at the War college. As a result he became first press officer on the war department general staff, then deputy director of public relations in the war department. He served as assistant to Henry L. Stimson, Gen. George C. Marshall, Mr. McCloy, Robert M. Lovett and Robert Patterson, and this involved travels all over the world.

It was under Colonel Grogan that the army's press operations began a large expansion, including radio monitoring. The colonel commissioned many newsmen during World War II, and his charges included, at one time or another, former baseball magnate Larry McPhail, Clark Gable, director Anatole Litvak, Darryl Zanuck, John Huston and Frank Capra.

In 1944 he went to Italy with Gen. Mark W. Clark, a native of Madison Barracks, as public relations chief of the Fifth army, and he was deputy chief of staff to General Clark in Austria. He returned to the

U.S. as deputy chief of staff for the Sixth army in 1947 and two years later was made commanding officer at Berchtesgaden, Germany, then deputy commander, and, in 1950, commander of the southern German region, with Munich as headquarters.

By 1951 Colonel Grogan had reached retirement age, but when he came home he found his old friend, Gen. Walter Bedell Smith, as director of C.I.A. He accepted the offer of a job as General Smith's assistant, and, when Mr. Dulles took over the directorship, it was only natural for him to keep the peppery Grogan with him.

CPYRIGHT